

REMARKS

Applicant has carefully reviewed the Office Action mailed December 9, 2008. Applicant thanks Examiner for indicating in the Office Action that claims 11-14, 17-28, and 33-48 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In response, Applicant submits this Amendment in which claims 11, 17, 25, and 33 are amended to include all of the limitations of the respective base claims and intervening claims. Additionally, claims 1-10, 15-16, and 29-32 are cancelled. The remaining pending claims—claims 12-14, 18-24, 26-28, and 34-48—depend from amended claims 11, 17, 25, and 33. Accordingly, Applicant submits that currently pending claims 11-14, 17-28, and 33-48 stand in condition for allowance.

It should be understood that Applicant has made these amendments solely to advance prosecution of the present application and to obtain allowance at the earliest possible date. Accordingly, no admission may be inferred from these amendments. Applicant expressly reserves the right to pursue the originally filed claims in the future. Additionally, Applicant submits that the amendments made herein introduce no new matter.

In view of the foregoing, favorable consideration and prompt allowance of the application are respectfully requested. Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if Examiner believes it would be useful to advance prosecution. The Commissioner is authorized and requested to charge to Deposit Account No. 061910 any underpayments, overpayments, or additionally required fees.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: June 9, 2009

/Thomas R. Hipkins/  
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*Please grant any extension of time necessary for entry; charge any fee due to Deposit Account No. 06-1910.*

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